Industry Group	Workers laid off
Rubber, Plast., Petro & Coal Prod.	1152
Bank & Similar Financial Inst.	—
Others	1831
All India:	56050

SOURCE: Labour Bureau, Shimla.

Second National Commission for Labour

757. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision to set up the Second National Commission on Labour; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Withdrawal of Provident Fund

758. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a pileup of applications from workers for withdrawal of their provident fund;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a huge amount of Rs. 100 crore is lying unutilised with the Provident Fund Commissioner;

(c) if so, what are the reasons;

(d) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to simplify the release of the funds to the workers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) As on 31.3.1993, an amount of Rs. 72.80 crores was lying under the head of unclaimed Deposit Account. The EPF accumulations are invested to earn interest as per the pattern prescribed by the Ministry of Finance. The provident fund amount togetherwith interest is paid as and when claims are made by the subscribers as per the scheme prescribed under the Act. As such, the question of any amount laying unutilised with the Provident Fund Commissioner does not arise.

(d) and (e) The working of the EPF Scheme is generally satisfactory. However, a massive computerisation programme has been launched in the EPF organisation for making further improvements in the services to the subscribers.

Insecurity Haunting the Bonded Children

759. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Fear stalks rescued kids", in the Times of India, dated January 12, 1994 relating to the insecurity haunting the bonded children from the clutches of carpet manufacturers;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to enforce effectively the Bonded Child Labour Law against the culprits violating this law; and

(c) the number of bonded children so far freed and rehabilitated during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR